

these claims to change the expression "which may be identical or different" to "which are identical or different." The amended language has the same meaning as intended by the original language, and should address the concerns of the Patent Office over the use of the term "may be."

The use of the variable "p" in claims 30 and 60 was also alleged to be indefinite as this variable was also recited in independent claims 20 and 50 (from which claims 30 and 60 depend, respectively). By this Amendment, the variables "p" and "q" in claims 30 and 60 have been changed to "w" and "z," respectively. Accordingly, this aspect of the rejection should be overcome.

B. Claims 20-40 and 50-70

Claims 20-40 and 50-70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite with respect to the use of the term "suitable." By this Amendment, claims 20 and 50 have been amended to delete this term from each claim. Accordingly, this aspect of the rejection should be overcome.

C. Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims fully comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

II. Rejoinder

Claims 41-49 and 71-79 have been indicated to be non-elected and withdrawn from consideration. However, claims 41-49 depend from elected and examined claim 20, while claims 71-79 depend from elected and examined claim 50. As such, these non-elected dependent claims include all of the limitations of the independent claims from which they depend. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that these non-elected dependent claims should be rejoined with the application and allowed along with claims 20-40 and 50-70.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 20-79 are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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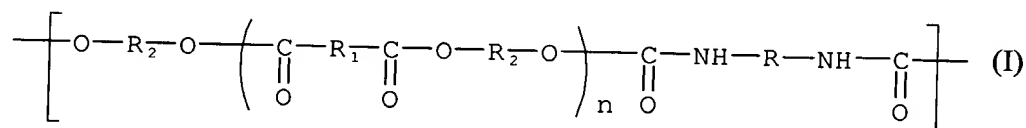
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| <p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p> |
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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claims:

20. (Amended) A stable pseudolatex comprising in suspension in an ~~a suitable~~ aqueous phase particles of non-crosslinked neutralized polyester polyurethane, wherein the polyester polyurethane consists of units consisting of formulae (I) and (II), and optionally of units of formula (III):




in which:

R represents an alkylene or cycloalkylene radical or a bivalent aromatic radical having from 6 to 15 carbon atoms,

n represents an integer such that the molecular weight of the recurring unit is between 400 and 5,000,

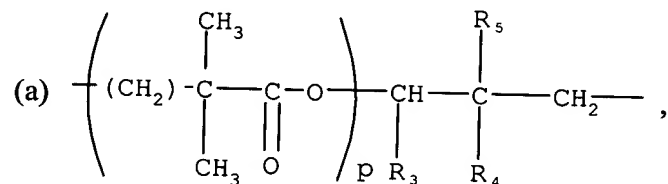
R₁ represents a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of:

(i) $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$, m being an integer between 2 and 12, and

(ii) , the movable bond being in the ortho, meta or para

position,

R₂ represents a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of:

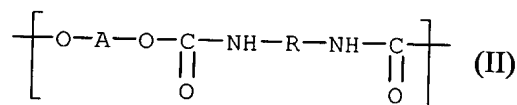
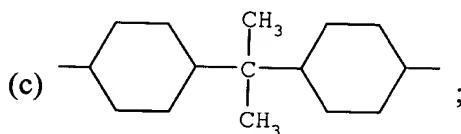
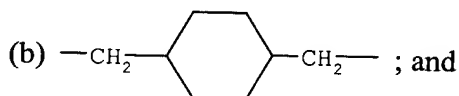


R_3 representing a hydrogen atom or a branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms,

R_4 representing a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

R_5 representing a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and

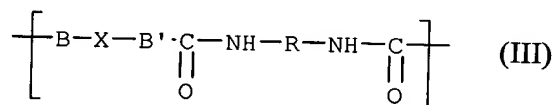
p being 0 or 1;



in which:

R is as defined above for the units of formula (I),

A represents an alkylene radical having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms, substituted with a carboxylic acid function; and



in which:

R is as defined above for the units of formula (I),

B and B', which ~~are~~ may be identical or different, represent -O- or -NH-, it not being possible for B and B' simultaneously to represent -O-, and

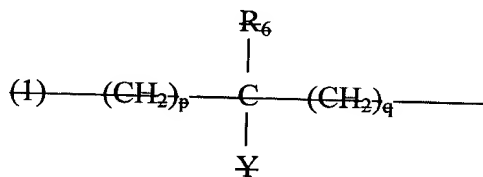
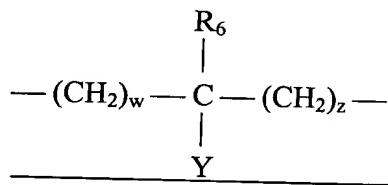
X represents an alkylene or cycloalkylene radical having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms or a bivalent aromatic radical having from 6 to 12 carbon atoms,

wherein the mole ratio between the units (II) and units (I) being between 1:1 and 10:1,

wherein the carboxylic acid function is neutralized with a neutralizing agent selected from the group consisting of an inorganic base and an organic base, the degree of neutralization being between 20 and 100%, and

wherein the average diameter of the particles is between 5 and 300 nm.

30. (Amended) Stable pseudolatex according to claim 20, wherein in said polyester polyurethane the bivalent radical A of the unit of formula (II) is chosen from the group consisting of:

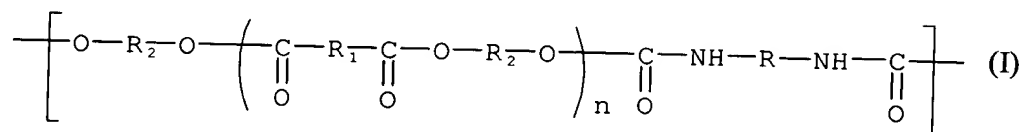


R₆ representing a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms,

Y representing a carboxylic acid group, or a salt thereof and

w and z, p and q, which are ~~may be~~ identical or different, representing an integer between 1 and 5.

50. (Amended) A stable pseudolatex comprising in suspension in an ~~a suitable~~ aqueous phase particles of non-crosslinked neutralized polyester polyurethane, wherein the polyester polyurethane contains units corresponding to the following formulae (I) and (II):



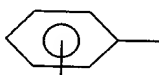
in which:

R represents an alkylene or cycloalkylene radical or a bivalent aromatic radical having from 6 to 15 carbon atoms,

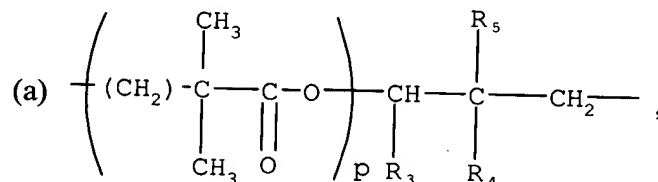
n represents an integer such that the molecular weight of the recurring unit is between 400 and 5,000,

R₁ represents a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of:

(i) $-(\text{CH}_2)_m-$, m being an integer between 2 and 12, and

(ii) , the movable bond being in the ortho, meta or para position,

R₂ represents a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of:

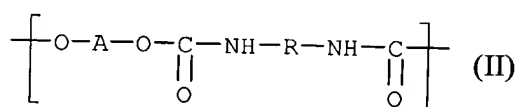
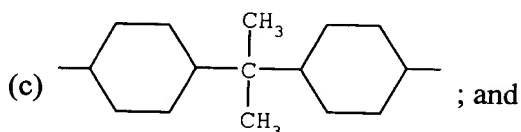
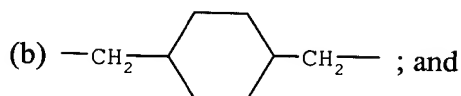


R₃ representing a hydrogen atom or a branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms,

R₄ representing a hydrogen atom or a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

R_5 representing a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and

p being 0 or 1;



in which:

R is as defined above for the units of formula (I),

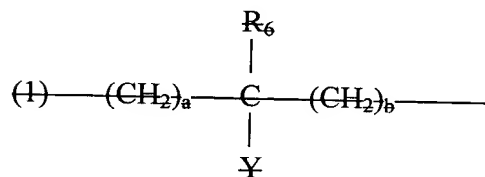
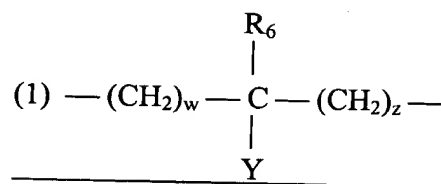
A represents an alkylene radical having from 2 to 20 carbon atoms, substituted with a sulphonic acid function, or interrupted by a tertiary nitrogen atom;

wherein the mole ratio between the units (II) and units (I) being between 1:1 and 10:1,

wherein the sulphonic acid function is neutralized with a neutralizing agent selected from the group consisting of an inorganic base and an organic base, and the tertiary nitrogen atom is neutralized with a neutralizing agent selected from the group consisting of an inorganic acid and an organic acid, the degree of neutralization being between 20 and 100%, and

wherein the average diameter of the particles is between 5 and 300 nm.

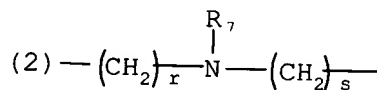
60. (Amended) Stable pseudolatex according to claim 50, wherein in said polyester polyurethane the bivalent radical A of the unit of formula (II) is chosen from the group consisting of:



R_6 representing a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms,

Y representing a sulphonic acid group or a salt thereof, and

w and z , ~~p and q~~ , which are ~~may be~~ identical or different, representing an integer between 1 and 5

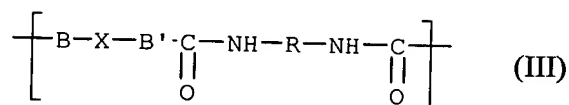


R_7 representing a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms,

and

r and s , which are ~~may be~~ identical or different, representing an integer between 1 and 10.

64. (Amended) Stable pseudolatex according to claim 50, wherein said polyester polyurethane further contains units corresponding to the following formula (III):



in which:

R is as defined in claim 50 for the units of formula (I),

B and B', which are ~~may be~~ identical or different, represent - O - or - NH -, it not
being possible for B and B' simultaneously to represent - O -, and

X represents an alkylene or cycloalkylene radical having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms or
a bivalent aromatic radical having from 6 to 12 carbon atoms.